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Panther Sports News

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, Charleston, IL 61920

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Aug. 23, 1982
LS-Hometowns

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Senior co-captains Perry Edinger (Mattoon) and Tim Warneke (Park Forest-Crete/Monee) will lead Eastern Illinois University's cross country team this fall.

Eastern opens the season on Saturday, Sept. 4 with the annual Panther Open matching the varsity against the alumni, although others are eligible to compete.

The regular season commences with the Panthers hosting Southeast Missouri at 4 p.m. Friday, Sept. 10. The highlight of the home schedule is the Illinois Intercollegiate, featuring the state's best teams, set for Saturday, Oct. 16.

New head coach Neil Moore, a familiar figure at EIU heading up the track program for the past eight years, takes over for Tom Woodall, who left the coaching profession to expand a program of cardiovascular studies in EIU's physical education department.

Moore has six returning lettermen but Warneke and Edinger are the veterans.

Voted the team's Most Valuable Runner last fall, Warneke was second, EIU's leading finisher, at the Mid-Continent Conference meet last fall.

His best race was 13th in the prestigious Notre Dame Invitational. He had an unfortunate season ending race finishing down the line in the NCAA regional.

However, he has won the last two Panther Pant races, the 12½ summer road race held in Charleston.

Edinger was the Panthers' top runner 50% of the time last fall and was the leading finisher (58th) at the NCAA regional. He earned all-conference honors finishing 4th at the MCC meet.

John Gassmann (Olney) was chosen the Most Improved Runner last year after a strong rush at season's end. He finished ninth in the league race and was the Panthers' second finisher in the regional.

He ran under nine minutes indoors in the two mile, a good measure of his ability.

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Two other returning all-conference runners are Dave Houston (Granite City-South) and Nick Whiteside (Mt. Vernon). Letterman Bob Beine (Downers Grove-North) also is back.

"Edinger, Warneke and Houston will probably provide the nucleus but if the underclassmen attain their potential and the new recruits make the transition to longer collegiate distances, it could be a great season," says Moore.

Besides the lettermen, Jon Guthrie (Lebanon), Aaron Shepley (Crystal Lake) and Dan Moore (Joliet-Lincoln Way) could make a contribution. Freshmen expected to help are Rex Armstrong (Elmhurst-York), Gordon Bourey (McHenry), Jerry Weiland (Carmi) and Chris Welch (Frankfurt, Germany).

"We also have a fine corps of middle distance runners, those in the 800-1500 range, who will be training with us in preparation for the track season. Hopefully some of these will be able to move up to the 10,000 meter distance and help us," Moore explained.

Those who fit in that category are Mark Cadigan (Lombard-Glenbard East), Gary Hudson (Hindsboro-Oakland), and Ron Sager (Olney).

1982 EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY CROSS COUNTRY

Sept. 4 (Sat.)	PANTHER OPEN	5 p.m.
Sept. 10 (Fri.)	SOUTHEAST MISSOURI	4 p.m.
Sept. 17 (Fri.)	at Purdue, Indiana State	4 p.m.
Sept. 25 (Sat.)	TFA Mid-American Championship at Kenosha, WI	Noon
Oct. 1 (Fri.)	at Notre Dame Invitational	2 p.m.
Oct. 8 (Fri.)	at Purdue Invitational	4 p.m.
Oct. 16 (Sat.)	ILLINOIS INTERCOLLEGIATE	11 a.m.
Oct. 23 (Sat.)	ISU-Evansville	11 a.m.
Oct. 30 (Sat.)	Mid-Continent Conference at Macomb	11 a.m.
Nov. 13 (Sat.)	NCAA Qualification at West Lafayette, IN	11 a.m.
Nov. 22 (Mon.)	NCAA National Championship at Bloomington, IN	11 a.m.

1982 CROSS COUNTRY ROSTER

<u>NAME</u>	<u>Yr.</u>	<u>Hometown (High School/JC)</u>
Rex Armstrong	Fr.	Elmhurst (York)
Bob Beine *	Jr.	Downers Grove (North)
Gordon Bourey	Fr.	McHenry
Rondoll Brown	Fr.	Granite City (South)
Mark Cadigan	Fr.	Lombard (Glenbard East)
Dave Carmody	So.	Oswego
Perry Edinger **	Sr.	Mattoon
Mike Erney	So.	Collinsville
John Gassman *	Jr.	Olney (East Richland)
Tim Geisler	So.	Granite City (South)
Jonathan Guthrie	So.	Lebanon
David Houston **	Jr.	Granite City (South)
Gary Hudson	So.	Hindsboro (Oakland)
Joel McKinney	Sr.	Niantic (N.-Harristown)
Dan Moore	So.	Joliet (Lincoln-Way)
Dan Newman	Fr.	Elmhurst (York)
Ron Sager	Fr.	Olney
Aaron Shepley	So.	Crystal Lake
Scott Tracy	So.	Downers Grove (North)
Tim Warneke ***	Sr.	Park Forest (Crete-Monee)
Jerry Weiland	So.	Carmi
Chris Welch	Fr.	Frankfurt, Germany
Nick Whiteside *	Jr.	Mt. Vernon
Bill Wilson	Jr.	Champaign (Central)

* Lettermen